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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): PANTARHEI BIOSCIENCE B.V. [NL/NL]; P.O. Box 464, NL-3700 AL Zeist (NL).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): COELINGH BENNINK, Herman, Tijmen [NL/NL]; Melvill van Cambeelaan 38, NL-3971 BE Driebergen (NL). BUNSCHOTEN, Evert, Johannes [NL/NL]; Plantsoen 16, NL-5384 EV Heesch (NL). HOLINKA, Christian, Franz [US/US]; 299 West 12th Street - 97, New York, NY 10014 (US).

(74) Agents: VAN WESTENBRUGGE, Andries et al.; Nederlandsch Octroobureau, Scheveningseweg 82, P.O. Box 29720, NL-2502 LS The Hague (NL).

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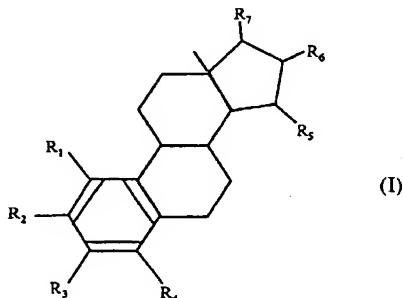
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## (54) Title: A METHOD OF TREATING HUMAN SKIN AND A SKIN CARE COMPOSITION FOR USE IN SUCH A METHOD



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(57) **Abstract:** One aspect of the invention concerns a cosmetic method of treating human skin by delivering an estrogenic component to said skin, the method comprising applying to the skin a composition containing: (i) at least 5 Ag/g of an estrogenic component selected from the group consisting of substances represented by the following formula (I) in which formula R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> independently are a hydrogen atom, a hydroxyl group or an alkoxy group with 1-5 carbon atoms; each of R<sub>5</sub>, R<sub>6</sub>, R<sub>7</sub> is a hydroxyl group; no more than 3 of R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> are hydrogen atoms; precursors capable of liberating a substance according to the aforementioned formula when used in the present method; and mixtures of one or more of the aforementioned substances and/or precursors; and (ii) a cosmetically acceptable vehicle. Other aspects of the invention relate to therapeutic methods of treating or preventing vaginal dryness or acne and a therapeutic method of promoting wound healing. Yet another aspect of the invention relates to a skin care composition comprising the aforementioned estrogenic component and a cosmetically acceptable vehicle.